

In past legislative hearings on this bill, it has been mentioned that allowing youth to run the elections would promote civic education for the youth. Did you know that in 1991, we passed a law called the "Youth Voting Act" and in that act it states in its purpose & intent:

13-22-102 is to establish a nonpartisan youth voting program that will:

- (1) provide the youth of Montana with practical experience in the democratic process;
- (2) increase the likelihood that Montana's youth will participate in the process as adult voters and encourage the participation of more parents in elections;
- (3) not benefit any elected official, candidate for elective office, political party, campaign for or against any ballot issue, or any proposed ballot issue attempting to qualify for placement on a ballot; and
- (4) be entirely funded through private donations.

History: En. Sec. 2, Ch. 348, L. 1991; amd. Sec. 4, Ch. 481, L. 2007.

13-22-107. Funding. (1) Except for compensation for time spent by employees of the secretary of state and the superintendent of public instruction, public money may not be used to support or fund the youth voting program established in this chapter.

(2) A nonprofit corporation may be formed subject to the provisions of Title 35, chapter 2, to solicit donations from private sources. Money solicited under this subsection must be used only for the youth voting program.

History: En. Sec. 7, Ch. 348, L. 1991; amd. Sec. 41, Ch. 475, L. 2003.

13-22-108. Reports. (1) Each biennium, the secretary of state shall provide, upon request, a report to the legislature outlining the program's effectiveness in achieving its objectives.

(2) Participating schools and agencies shall provide to the secretary of state information regarding the youth voting program for the secretary of state's report to the legislature.

History: En. Sec. 8, Ch. 348, L. 1991.

Our current SOS official has brought the My Voice National Student Mock election to over 100 Montana schools in the 2012 election and in past elections.

Our present SOS office has been very engaged in getting the youth educated about elections so I do not think we need to engage our students into the real process when they are already doing it in their respective schools. Our elections should always have the appearance of being operated under the law. The law states that election judges who are registered voters (that means 18 years of age or older) are the ones who should be handling our ballots; unregistered youth should not be running our state & federal elections. All youth can wait until they are 18 years of age to experience their patriotic duty of voting.

Committee members I ask for a "NO" vote on HB 327.

Thank you,
Rep. Kirk Wagoner, HD 77.

Fully Capable to assist ^{Full} power & duties of Election Judge is questionable
Election Judges ^{pages} assist but do not make decision / vote
power

Fortitude to do right

under supervision 1:1 Ratio screen from principle

needed to advertise hire temporary assistance
never seen any advertisement for PA for Election judges
Civic Lessons

Concern

Prefer Assistant or Helper for under 18

Like choice & local

Need - not best solution

College age

How much Advertising or

Problem

Solution

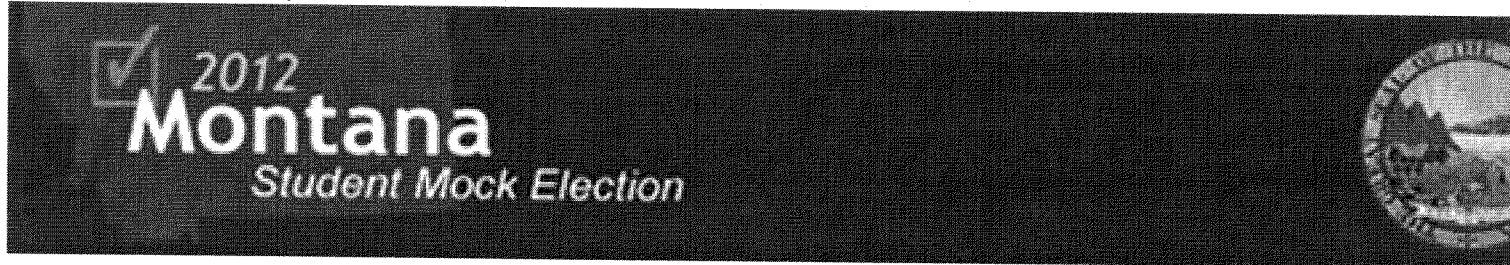
1. Need more election Judges
2. Civic Lessons

Very Politically active College age
Youth Legislature / Youth Voter Act

<http://sos.mt.gov/News/index.asp> - 2012 Montana Student Mock Election

October 30, 2012

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**2012 Montana Student Mock Election A Success;
Thousands of Students Learn Importance of Civic Engagement**

EAST HELENA, MT – Secretary of State Linda McCulloch and School Administrators of Montana (SAM) Executive Director Kirk Miller said that over 100 Montana schools are slated to participate in the 2012 Montana Student Mock Election, which will amount to between 11,000 and 16,000 students.

The statewide program provides middle school and high school students a unique opportunity to voice their opinions on public issues while gaining a better understanding of the value of voting in every election.

“When students learn at an early age how important it is to participate in the civic process, they are more likely to vote once they become eligible,” Secretary McCulloch said. “The mock election is a fun and effective way to secure future voters and a promising future for Montana.”

The 2012 mock election ballot includes actual federal and statewide candidate races, as well as a handful of ballot issues and a polling question related to the school schedule. Voters are also asked to prioritize key national issues by ranking the economy, education, energy, environment, health care and national debt.

“We are excited about how interested our schools across Montana are in the 2012 election,” Director Miller said. “The ability to promote civic responsibility is something that both SAM and the Secretary of State’s office have worked together on for the past several years, culminating in this year’s mock election and tens of thousands of Montana students expressing their interest on the items important to our state and nation.”

“Our democracy depends on actively engaged citizens who know and understand how government works,” McCulloch said. “Thank you to the students, the teachers, the schools and to each of the sponsoring organizations for taking an active interest in securing this public knowledge.”

Partnering organizations for the 2012 Montana Student Mock Election include the Montana Secretary of State’s Office, School Administrators of Montana (SAM), National Student/Parent Mock Election, Montana Office of Public Instruction, and Montana public schools.

<http://www.nationalmockelection.org/about/> - SOS Linda McCulloch even did a PSA on the Student Mock Election event.

Mock Election 2012 Results Page

This page gives results for all the schools participating in the mock election. If you want to see the vote for a single school, you can select it in the list below and click the "Single school" button.

See results [2010 Mock Election](#) or [2008 Mock Election](#).

NATIONAL - ELECTORAL RACES		Vote Total
President of the United States		
Gary Johnson for President, James P. Gray for Vice President (Libertarian)		448
Barack Obama for President, Joe Biden for Vice President (Democrat)		2844
Mitt Romney for President, Paul Ryan for Vice President (Republican)		4106
Other		222
United States Senator		
Dan Cox (Libertarian)		868
Denny Rehberg (Republican)		3189
Jon Tester (Democrat)		3121
Other		337
United States Representative		
Steve Daines (Republican)		3444
Kim Gillian (Democrat)		2576
David Kaiser (Libertarian)		928
Other		414
STATE - ELECTORAL RACES		Vote Total
Governor		
Steve Bullock for Governor, John Walsh for Lt. Governor (Democrat)		2861
Rick Hill for Governor, Jon Sonju for Lt. Governor (Republican)		3504
Ron Vandevender for Governor, Marc Mulcahy for Lt. Governor (Libertarian)		719
Other		331
Secretary of State		
Brad Johnson (Republican)		3277
Linda McCulloch (Democrat)		2649
Roger Roots (Libertarian)		950
Other		414

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Denise Juneau (Democrat)	2507
Sandy Welch (Republican)	4155
Other	548

Clerk of Supreme Court

Mike Fellows (Libertarian)	1545
Ed Smith (Democrat)	1891
Other	763

State Auditor

Monica Lindeen (Democrat)	1776
Derek Skees (Republican)	2762
Other	374

Attorney General

Pam Bucy (Democrat)	1656
Tim Fox (Republican)	2972
Other	329

NATIONAL - BALLOT ISSUES**Vote
Total**

Of the issues listed below, select the issue you feel is the most important one our country is facing today.

Economy	1928
Education	468
Energy	162
Environment	328
Health Care	521
National Debt	1678

Of the issues listed below, select the issue you feel is the next most important one our country is facing today.

Economy	1220
Education	525
Energy	258
Environment	414
Health Care	762

National Debt	1179
We should reform the nation's tax code by closing loopholes for millionaires and billionaires. This involves cutting corporate tax rates and using the tax code to reward companies that pursue innovation and invest in America.	
Agree	3831
Disagree	1175
We should pursue more free trade agreements with other nations in order to open new markets for American products, to create jobs in the United States, and to stimulate economic growth.	
Agree	3493
Disagree	820
We should provide tax credits for companies that bring jobs back to the United States from overseas and to companies that invest in communities with high unemployment rates.	
Agree	3433
Disagree	1520
We should cut individual income tax rates by 20 percent to encourage savings, investment, work, and entrepreneurship and also reduce the corporate tax rate from 35 to 25 percent and strengthen tax credits for companies engaged in research and development.	
Agree	3132
Disagree	1810
Select a statement with which you most agree.	
Our most important educational priorities should be to expand financial aid for college students and double the number of federally-funded work-study jobs over the next five years.	1904
The current federal student lending system, under which the Department of Education makes loans directly to students, should be changed. Individuals should be responsible for funding their own education.	517
We should put more emphasis on school choice options such as charter schools, school-voucher programs for public and private schools, and home schooling as an alternative to mandating that students continue to attend underperforming schools in the traditional public school system.	991
We should work with local schools to implement reforms that reward teachers with merit pay based on student achievement measured in a given year compared to the previous year.	831
Select a statement with which you most agree.	
We should empower states to control all forms of energy development and production on all lands within their borders, excluding areas that are specifically designated off-limits.	677
We should invest in clean, renewable sources of energy, especially solar and wind-power.	2352
We should expand regulatory cooperation with Canada and Mexico and institute fast-track approval processes for cross-border pipelines and other infrastructure, starting with approving the Keystone XL pipeline.	742
We should focus on energy efficiency, along with increasing prices and taxes to decrease use of fossil fuels.	430

Select a statement with which you most agree.

All Americans should be required to have health insurance, either through an employer or by paying for it themselves.	773
The federal government should not require that all Americans have health insurance.	1294
Universal health care coverage means more affordable premiums and lower costs because people will focus more on preventive care and avoid expensive emergency care. Americans have the right to health insurance and protections from abusive practices by insurance companies.	1409
Universal health care amounts to government control of individuals' rights, government interference in the economy, and huge costs. The individual states should set their own policies regarding the uninsured, those with chronic conditions, and with regard to Medicaid.	737

Select the statement with which you most agree.

We should cap federal government spending at below 20 percent of the nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).	2987
Spending cuts will only go so far and raising taxes and/or changing the rules on how taxes are paid are also necessary steps to reduce the deficit.	1815

STATE - BALLOT ISSUES**Vote
Total****LR 121 - Referendum to deny certain state services to illegal aliens.**

FOR denying certain state services to illegal aliens	3035
AGAINST denying certain state services to illegal aliens	1803

LR 122 - Referendum to prohibit the state or federal government from mandating the purchase of health insurance or imposing penalties for decisions related to purchasing health insurance.

FOR prohibiting the state or federal government from mandating the purchase of health insurance.	2553
AGAINST prohibiting the state or federal government from mandating the purchase of health insurance.	2228

I-166 - Ballot initiative I-166 establishes a state policy that corporations are not entitled to constitutional rights because they are not human beings, and charges Montana elected and appointed officials, state and federal, to implement that policy

FOR establishing a state policy that corporations are not entitled to constitutional rights because they are not human beings	2425
AGAINST establishing a state policy that corporations are not entitled to constitutional rights because they are not human beings	2314

POLL QUESTIONS**Vote
Total****SCHOOL SCHEDULE**

Would you support a longer school year and fewer class hours or support keeping the current school hours and length of school year?

Yes - Longer school year and fewer school hours	780
No - Keep current time and length of school year	3483

POLL QUESTIONS - ELEMENTARY BALLOT	Vote Total
RECESS	
Should recess be twenty (20) minutes two (2) times a day OR fifteen (15) minutes, three (3) times a day?	
20 minutes 2 times a day	1026
15 minutes 3 times a day	1385
CANDY AND SODA	
Should candy and soda pop be allowed in school?	
Allow in school	1977
Do not allow in school	427